



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Selectmen Minutes 09-24-2001

Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 24, 2001

7:15 p.m.

Present: Mr. Lyons, Chairman, Mrs. Mahon, Mr. Greeley, Mrs. Dias, Mr. Hurd
 Also present: Mr. Farrington, Mr. Maher, Mrs. Krepelka

1. Minutes of Meeting: August 27, 2001, September 5, 2001

Mrs. Mahon moved approval.

SO VOTED

2. Presentation: Combined Veterans Clubs of Arlington

Wilfred St. Martin et al

Mr. Wilfred St. Martin introduced Board members and requested that because of the events of September 11, 2001 the Town of Arlington add all names of military personnel now serving on active duty in any of the US Armed Services to our Veterans Honor Roll. He would like residents to adopt an aircraft, form pen pals with veterans, etc. Also, maybe RCN and Media One could do a tape of events going on in Arlington for the holidays.

He would like to see the Arlington Advocate send a one-year subscription to all men and women on active duty.

Mrs. Mahon stated that maybe the Girls Scouts and Boy Scouts could participate by sending letters and greeting cards.

Mr. Hurd moved that Mr. St. Martin work with Joseph Daley, Veteran's Agent for the Town, as to compiling an updated list of names and addresses.

SO VOTED

3. Proclamations

"Pond Rats" Baseball Team

Mr. James Robillard accepted Proclamation.

Mr. Lyons congratulated team and introduced the team to the audience. Pictures were taken of the team, the coach and Mr. Lyons.

4. Appointment Board of Youth Services

Jeanette Amato Mills

Mr. Lyons moved approval.

SO VOTED

Appointment Board of Selectmen Designee

To study by-law governing New racks

Mr. Lyons moved to appoint Elizabeth Bilafer.

SO VOTED

5. Reappointments

Board of Health

Gregory Leonardos, 43 Ronald Road

Three year term to expire on July 30, 2003.

Board of Youth Services

Mary Deyst, 26 Upland Road West

Three year term to expire on April 1, 2003

Donna Dolan, 121 Thesda Street
Three year term to expire June 20, 2004

Commission on Disabilities
Thomas Boudreu, 11 Arrow head Lane
Three year term to expire on November 08, 2004

Conservation Commission
Nathaniel Stevens, 11 Montrose Avenue
Three year term to expire on July 30, 2004

Geraldine Tremblay, 88 Webcow et Road
Three year term to expire on October 20, 2004.

Historical Commission
Robert Botterio, 39 Russell Street
Three year term to expire on August 25, 2004

Joanne Robinson, 50 Jason Street
Three year term to expire on October 1, 2004

Human Rights Commission
Susan McHugh, 206 Spring Street
Three year term to expire on July 30, 2004

Sheri Baron, 10 Raleigh Street
Three year term to expire on November 16, 2004

Board of Library Trustees
Joyce Radochia, 45 Columbia Road
Three year term to expire on December 5, 2004

Open Space Committee
Karsten Hartel, 37 Brunswick Road
Three year term to expire on September 30, 2002

Bernice Jones, 21 Kensington Road
Three year term to expire on September 30, 2003

Ann Leroyer, 12 Pierce Street
Three year term to expire on September 30, 2004

Alan McClennen, Planning Department
Three year term to expire on September 30, 2002

Patsy Kraemer, Human Services Department
Three year term to expire on September 30, 2004

Park and Recreation Commission
Don Vitters, 23 Draper Avenue
Three year term to expire December 14, 2004

Joseph Carabello, 156 Lake Street
Three year term to expire December 22, 2003

Bernice Jones, 21 Kensington Road
Three year term to expire on September 30, 2003

Personnel Board
 Richard Terry, 20 Peabody Road
 Three year term to expire on October 15, 2004

Redevelopment Board
 Edward Tsoi, 16 Devereaux Street
 Three year term to expire on September 14, 2004

Trust Fund Committee
 Donald Reenstierna, 459 Mystic Street
 Three year term to expire on October 1, 2004

Mr Lyons moved approval of all reappointments. SO VOTED

6. Alewife Update / Representatives Paulsen and Marzilli

Representative Anne Paulsen spoke at length regarding the O'Neill property. They propose to construct a 248,000-sq. ft. office building. The proposal gives Belmont the benefits of a \$375,000 contribution to its affordable housing fund. O'Neill Properties plans to develop (7) seven acres and restrict development on 8.6 acres. There is also an adjacent six-story parking garage planned for the site.

Representative Paulsen stated Belmont's Town Meeting must rezone the property to commercial zoning since it is zoned for general residence now.

Mr. Hurd stated that Arlington will endure much of the effect but will receive none of the benefits. The Board felt Belmont officials have been lax in giving information on the Belmont property. Mrs. Dias felt she learned more by reading the newspaper in one week than from the Town of Belmont. Mrs. Mahon stated she belongs to the Alewife Coalition, a group which includes local activists and officials from Arlington, Belmont and Cambridge including Belmont Selectmen William Monahan and the group didn't hear a thing about the project.

Mr. Hurd moved to ask acting Town Manager Theresa DeBenedictis to hire a consultant to analyze traffic and environmental studies produced by the project's developers. SO VOTED

7. Request for One Day All Alcoholic License, Dinner Dance, 10/20/01

Bonnie Echmalian, Arlington Educational Enrichment Fund

Mr. Greeley moved approval. SO VOTED

8. Request for One Day All Alcoholic License, 10/14/01

Guy Catanzano, Retired Men's Club of Arlington

Mr. Greeley moved approval. SO VOTED

9. Common Victualler License

Baldeep Inc. d/b/a Punjab Foods and Spice and Chai Café, Jaspal S. Pbla, Pres. 454-454A Massachusetts Ave.

Mr. Greeley moved approval. SO VOTED

10. Citizens Open Forum

No matter was presented.

11. Traffic Concerns Jason Street

Bob McKersie, 197 Jason Street, presented a petition with 100 signatures from area residents concerned about safety conditions, and traffic issues on Jason Street. The following residents spoke about their fear and concerns:

Steven Johnson, 124 Jason Street

Susan Hanlon, 208 Jason Street

Anne Murray, 95 Jason Street

Peg Spengler, 189 Jason Street

Residents felt immediate action was necessary due to the increased use by cut through traffic that plagues the area, and the residents feel drivers have become more aggressive, making the streets unsafe for children.

Mrs. Spengler asked the Board not to let traffic destroy the neighborhood. She stated that today Jason Street is a very young neighborhood.

After much discussion regarding the increased traffic and safety concerns, the Board voted (4 - 1) as follows:

A six month trial period limiting through traffic on Jason Street. Post "Do Not Enter" signs between the hours of 7:00 - 9:00 a.m. at

the intersection of Jason and Gray Streets and post "Do Not Enter" signs between the hours of 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the intersection of Jason and Spring Streets

No heavy trucking at all times.

Increase police enforcement on Jason Street and, also, on Highland Avenue where access to Route 2 is available.

Refer to Transportation Advisory Committee and report back to Board of Selectmen as soon as possible with recommendations.

Mr. Greeley moved approval; seconded by Mrs. Dias. Mr Hurd voted against said motion. Mr. Hurd felt the petition and neighborhood requests should be referred to the Transportation Advisory Committee for their recommendations before the Board takes any action.

SO VOTED

(4 - 1)

Mrs. Mahon moved an approval, seconded by Mr. Hurd that a crosswalk be installed on Jason Street at the intersection of Norfolk Road.

SO VOTED

(5 - 0)

12. For Discussion: Mugar Property

Kevin Knoblock, Chairman and Carol Kowalski spoke to Board about their concerns with the Mugar property and what the impact would be from the Belmont Uplands Proposal. Mugar developers propose to build two buildings totaling more than 150,000 square feet. A decision on the property's flood plain elevations by the Department of Environmental Protection weighs heavily for both sides as to how much of the 18 acre property can be developed.

Mugar environmental consultant, Rizzo Associates, appealed the decision of the Towns Conservation Commission after it rejected the elevation presented by Rizzo project Manager David Albrecht.

Town activists continue to work with the nonprofit Trust for Public Land to determine a way to keep the space permanently open.

13. For Discussion: Tracking Software

Al Minervini, Comptroller and Director of Data Processing was present and gave the Board a progress report on the TrackWise Tracking System. Mr. Minervini feels the new tracking system is working well.

Mr. Lyons moved to accept report. Mr. Hurd would like to know what the response time was when assigned said complaint.

14. For Discussion: Utility Pole Issues

Peter T. Bowman, Verizon Communications

Mr. Bowman could not attend and will send a report before he appears at meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Lyons moved to have Mr. Bowman appear before the Board as soon as possible.

SO VOTED

15. For Discussion: Voting and Alternate Voting Delegates, Annual Congress of Cities, December 4-8, 2001, Atlanta, Georgia

Mr. Lyons will attend as Chairman of the Board.

SO VOTED

16. For Approval and Signing of Notes

John Bilafer, Town Treasurer

Mr. Hurd moved approval.

SO VOTED

(5 0 VOTE)

17. For Approval: Selectmen's Report to Special Town Meeting

Mr. Hurd moved approval.

SO VOTED

18. For Approval: Request for Payment of Bills

Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum

Mr. Greeley moved approval.

SO VOTED

Correspondence Received

Kathryn Leva	Request for additional sidewalks	Be Recd
7 Avola St.		

Shawn Nevalainen	Town Day 2001 fundraising success	Be Recd
10 Magnolia St.		

Shawn Nevalainen	Community Disaster Preparedness	Be Recd
10 Magnolia St.		

Mary Nora Walsh	Letter of complaint relative sidewalk	Be Recd
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37 Drake Rd. #713

Issues near Drake Village

Marina Rendino
17 Palmer st.

Parking on Palmer Street

Be Recd

Mr. Hurd moved to receive correspondence

SO VOTED

New Business:

Mrs. Mahon asked that a letter be sent to Senator Brian Joyce and Representative Brian Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Public Service, asking for favorable action on Senate Bill 2012 regarding a review of the appropriateness of the ordinary disability retirement of retired Arlington police officer, Albert Spina.

Mrs. Mahon - reported that the Arlington Police and Fire Departments were planning a fund-raiser either November 9 or November 16 for the victims of September 11, 2001. More details will follow as plans progress.

Executive Session

Mr. Lyons moved to convene in executive session for the purpose of considering the purchase, exchange, taking, lease, or value of real property and that the Board reconvene in open session for the sole purpose of adjournment.

Mr. Lyons: yes
Mrs. Mahon: yes
Mr. Greeley: yes
Mrs. Dias: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes

The Board returned to open session at 11:45 p.m.

Mr. Hurd moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

A true record. Attest:

Marie Krepelka
Board Administrator